Inspection of battery cells by X-ray computed tomography

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Li-ion batteries are ubiquitous energy storage devices. Their performance closely depends on internal structure, where minor changes or defects significantly affect reliability. X-ray computed tomography (CT) provides a powerful, non-destructive approach to examine battery interiors.

Multi-scale imaging with CT effectively reveals structural changes from cycling, aging-induced deformations, electrode thickness variations, and supports correlative analysis using nano CT together with SEM/XPS [1, 2]. Techniques like virtual unrolling further enhance clarity, facilitating straightforward battery inspection and analysis [3].

Multiscale imaging



Analysis of defects and deformations

Expansion of prismatic cell after cycling^[2]

Variations in thickness t of inner layers of electrodes in used cylindrical cell along its axis $z^{[3]}$

Structural changes of cylindrical cell due to aging ^[1]







Advanced techniques

Correlative analysis by nano CT and SEM/XPS





Virtual unrolling for straightforward visualization and analysis ^[3]





A red arrow points to the position of the detail



References

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